

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A modular overhead privacy system for a mobile platform comprising:

a plurality of independent privacy modules located longitudinally spaced apart and centered along a longitudinal center line of the mobile platform, above a passenger cabin, in an overhead crown area of the mobile platform; and

a plurality of access stairways providing access to the privacy modules from the passenger cabin, wherein each privacy module is accessible by an independent one of the access stairways.

2. (currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein each ~~privacy module consumes~~ access stairway occupies a space within the passenger cabin equivalent to a space occupied by one of a plurality of passenger seats within the passenger cabin ~~a single seating location in the passenger cabin that a passenger seat would otherwise occupy.~~

3. (previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein each access stairway leads to a privacy module platform adapted to allow an individual to comfortably move within the related privacy module.

4. (previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein each privacy module is physically associated with at least one specific seat in the passenger cabin located near a bottom portion of the respective access stairway.

5. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein each privacy module includes at least one berth adapted to provide an individual a private repose space separate from the passenger cabin.

6. (original) The system of Claim 5, wherein each berth is further adapted to provide the passenger sufficient space for the passenger to fully recline.

7. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein each privacy module includes an emergency gateway adapted to allow an individual in one privacy module to exit the respective privacy module and enter a longitudinally adjacent privacy module.

8. (original) The system of Claim 1, wherein each access stairway includes a set of security doors adapted to prevent traversing of the respective access stairway when the security doors are in a closed position.

9. (previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein a bottom portion of each access stairway includes a platform including at least one step facing a direction orthogonal to a longitudinal centerline of the passenger cabin and adapted to provide access to the access stairway from a lateral direction.

10. (previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein the privacy modules are longitudinally spaced apart in accordance with a seat pitch of a plurality of rows of seats in the passenger cabin such that each access stairway descends from the respective privacy module so that a bottom portion of the access stairway is physically associated with a specific row of seats and an upper portion of the access stairway allows substantially unblocked access to a row of seats behind the row of seats associated with the bottom portion of the access stairway.

11. (currently amended) A method for providing individuals of a mobile platform private retiring quarters, said method comprising:

providing a plurality of independent privacy modules located longitudinally spaced apart and centered along a longitudinal center line of the mobile platform, above a passenger cabin, in an overhead crown area of the mobile platform;

providing a separate independent access from the passenger cabin to each said independent privacy module via a plurality of independent access stairways,

each access stairway providing access to an independent one of the privacy modules via an aperture in a floor platform of the respective privacy module; and

physically associating each said independent privacy module with at least one specific seat in the passenger cabin.

12. (original) The method of Claim 11, wherein providing a plurality of independent privacy modules comprises providing at least one private berth within each said privacy module in which an individual can privately repose away from the passenger cabin.

13. (original) The method of Claim 12, wherein providing a plurality of independent privacy modules comprises providing at least one emergency gateway within each said privacy module to allow individuals of the privacy modules to exit each privacy module and enter a longitudinally adjacent privacy module without entering the passenger cabin.

14. (original) The method of Claim 11, wherein providing a separate independent access from the passenger cabin to each privacy module comprises connecting each said independent privacy module to the passenger cabin via one of a plurality of access stairways such that each said privacy module is accessible by an independent one of the access stairways.

15. (previously presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein connecting each said independent privacy module to the passenger cabin via one of a plurality of access stairways comprises connecting each said independent privacy module to the passenger cabin via one of a plurality of access stairways such that a single seating location within the passenger cabin that is otherwise occupied by a passenger seat is consumed by each said privacy module.

16. (original) The method of Claim 14, wherein providing a plurality of independent privacy modules located longitudinally spaced apart, above a passenger cabin, in an overhead crown area of the mobile platform comprises longitudinally spacing the privacy modules in accordance with a seat pitch of a plurality of rows of

seats in the passenger cabin such that each said access stairway descends from the respective privacy module so that a bottom portion of the access stairway is associated with a specific row of seats and an upper portion of the access stairway provides sufficient access to a row of seats behind the row of seats associated with the bottom portion of the access stairway.

17. (previously presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein associating each said independent privacy module with at least one specific seat in the passenger cabin comprises physically associating each said independent privacy module with at least one specific seat in the passenger cabin located near a bottom portion of the respective access stairway.

18. (previously presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the floor platform within each privacy module is adapted to allow an individual to comfortably move within the related privacy module

19. (previously presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein providing a separate independent access from the passenger cabin to each privacy module comprises providing access to each access stairway from a lateral direction using at least one step included in a bottom portion of each access stairway that faces a direction orthogonal to a longitudinal centerline of the passenger cabin.

20. (previously presented) A passenger aircraft comprising:

a modular overhead privacy system including:

a plurality of independent privacy modules located longitudinally spaced apart, above a passenger cabin, in an overhead crown area of the aircraft, wherein each said privacy module is physically associated with at least one specific seat in the passenger cabin and encroaches a single seating location in the passenger cabin;

a plurality of access stairways providing access to the privacy modules from the passenger cabin such that each said privacy module is accessible by a separate independent one of the access stairways; and

at least one emergency gateway within each said privacy module to allow individuals of the privacy modules to exit each said privacy module and enter a longitudinally adjacent privacy module without entering the passenger cabin.

21. (previously presented) The aircraft of Claim 20, wherein each access stairway leads to a privacy module floor platform adapted to allow an individual to comfortably navigate himself/herself within the related privacy module.

22. (previously presented) The aircraft of Claim 20, wherein the specific seat physically associated with each independent privacy module is located near a bottom portion of the respective access stairway.

23. (original) The aircraft of Claim 20, wherein each said privacy module includes at least one berth adapted to provide an individual a private repose space separate from the passenger cabin.

24. (original) The aircraft of Claim 23, wherein each said berth is further adapted to provide the individual sufficient space for the individual to fully recline.

25. (original) The aircraft of Claim 20, wherein each said access stairway includes a set of security doors adapted to prevent traversing of the respective access stairway when the security doors are in a closed position.

26. (previously presented) The aircraft of Claim 20, wherein a bottom portion of each access stairway includes a platform including at least one step facing a direction orthogonal to a longitudinal centerline of the passenger cabin and adapted to provide access to the access stairway from a lateral direction.

27. (previously presented) The aircraft of Claim 20, wherein the privacy modules are longitudinally spaced apart in accordance with a seat pitch of a plurality of

rows of seats in the passenger cabin such that each access stairway descends from its respective privacy module so that a bottom portion of the access stairway is physically associated with a specific row of seats and an upper portion of the access stairway provides sufficient access to a row of seat behind the row of seats associated with the bottom portion of the access stairway.